

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8 and 13 have been amended above. Claims 3-7 and 12 remain in the application unchanged. Claims 2, 9-11 and 14 were previously canceled. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims are respectfully requested.

Summary of Office Action

In the Office Action dated February 21, 2007, Claims 1 and 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Sayers, U.S. Patent No. 6,527,411 (hereinafter "Sayers '411"). Claim 1 has been amended above, and claims 3-5 remain in the application unchanged. Applicant believes that these claims are now allowable over the cited reference for the reasons discussed below.

Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sayers '411. These claims remain in the application unchanged. Applicant believes that these claims are now allowable over the cited reference for the reasons discussed below.

Claims 8, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Son, U.S. Patent No. 6,741,234 (hereinafter "Son '234") in view of Sayers '411. Claims 8 and 13 were amended above, and claim 12 remains in the application unchanged. Applicant believes that these claims are now allowable over the cited reference for the reasons discussed below.

Claims 1 and 3-7

As noted above, claims 1 and 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Sayers '411. Claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§103(a) as being unpatentable over Sayers '411. Applicant believes that these claims are now allowable over the cited reference for at least the following reasons.

The standard for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 is one of strict identity. To anticipate a claim for a patent, a single prior source must contain all of its essential elements. *Hybritech, Inc. v. Monoclonal Antibodies, Inc.*, 231 USPQ 81, 90 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Sayers '411 does not disclose or suggest at least the following element of Applicant's claim 1: **"a reflector cup embedded within the input end of the body and partially surrounding the light source, the reflector cup having an opening that faces the output end of the body and being configured to reflect light in order to redirect light from the light source towards the output end of the body."** On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner states: "Regarding claim 1, Sayers teaches... a reflector cup embedded at the input end of the body and surrounding the light source (Fig. 11, element 70), the reflector cup configured to redirect light from the light source towards the output end of the body (col. 4, lines 26-28)." Applicant asserts that element 70 of Sayers '411 is **not** a "reflector cup" as described in Applicant's claim 1. Instead, this element is described in Sayers '411 as a "light receiving surface" which appears to be equivalent to the "light receiving surface 11" described at col. 4, lines 26-28 and shown in Fig. 7 of Sayers '411. Both of these light receiving surfaces 11, 70 are configured to **collimate** light from the LED 18, **not** "reflect light in order to redirect light from the light source towards the output end of the body" as claimed by Applicant (see Sayers '411, col. 4, line 24). In fact, the path of light **through** the light receiving surface 11 is clearly shown in Fig. 7, i.e., light is clearly **not reflected** (and instead is **refracted**) by the light receiving surface 11 of Sayers '411. Also, the light receiving surface 70 of Sayers '411 does

not include an “opening that faces the output end of the body” as claimed by Applicant. Instead, the light receiving surface 70 is a **solid** surface with an indented center portion 74 that faces the output end of the light pipe (see Sayers ‘411, Fig. 11 and col. 5, lines 40-41). For at least these reasons, Applicant believes that claim 1 is now allowable over the cited reference.

Claims 3-7 are believed to be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim, and further in view of the novel and non-obvious combinations of elements disclosed therein.

Claims 8, 12 and 13

As noted above, claims 8, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Son ‘234 in view of Sayers ‘411. Claims 8 and 13 were amended above. Applicant believes that these claims are now allowable over the cited references for the reasons discussed below.

Neither Son ‘234 nor Sayers ‘411 discloses or suggests at least the following element which is included in both of Applicant’s claims 8 and 13: **“a reflector cup embedded within the input end of the optical conduit and partially surrounding the light source, the reflector cup having an opening that faces the output end of the optical conduit and being configured to reflect light in order to redirect light from the light source towards the output end of the optical conduit.”** With the exception of using the term “optical conduit” rather than “body”, this element is identical to that of Applicant’s claim 1 (as amended). As discussed in further detail above relative to claim 1, this element is neither disclosed nor suggested in Sayers ‘411, and the arguments in this regard are herein renewed. Furthermore, on page 4

of the Office Action, the Examiner notes that Son '234 "...does not expressly disclose the optical conduit having... a reflector cup embedded within the optical conduit and surrounding the light source." Thus, neither Sayers '411 nor Son '234 disclose or suggest this element of Applicant's claims 8 and 13. For at least these reasons, Applicant believes that claims 8 and 13 are now allowable over the cited reference.

Claim 12 is believed to be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim, and further in view of the novel and non-obvious combinations of elements disclosed therein.

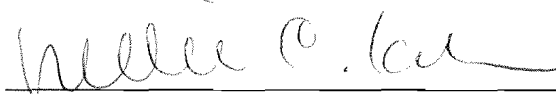
Conclusion

Applicant believes that all of the claims pending in the application (claims 1, 3-8, 12 and 13) are allowable over the cited references. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the application and grant an early allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, Applicant's attorney may be contacted at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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